



Federal Legislative Activities - Week of May 19, 2014

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of May 19, 2014 below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Tuesday, May 20th

9:30 AM | House Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Health Care and Entitlements: Medicare Oversight. *Medicare Mismanagement: Oversight of the Federal Government Effort to Recapture Misspent Funds.*

9:30 AM | House Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health: Medicare Program Hospital Issues

9:30 AM | House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation: Public Lands and Environmental Regulations Bills.

[H.R. 4272](#) – the bill would stop implementation and enforcement of the Forest Service travel management rule and to require the Forest Service to incorporate the needs, uses, and input of affected communities before taking any travel management action affecting access to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain, and for other purposes. “Forest Access in Rural Communities Act”. Watch the live webcast [here](#).

10 AM | House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources- Oversight Hearing: U.S. Energy Resources and Jobs. Click [here](#) to view the draft legislation.

10 AM | House Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies: Fiscal 2015 Appropriations – Agriculture. The proposed legislation funds important agricultural and food programs and services, including food and medical product safety, animal and plant health programs, rural development and farm services, marketplace oversight, and nutrition programs. The bill provides for \$82.3 billion in required mandatory spending – which is outside the discretionary funding jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee – for SNAP. This is \$81 million above last year’s level and \$2 billion below the President’s budget request. The bill totals \$20.9 billion in discretionary funding, which is equal to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.

10:30 AM | House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources oversight hearing entitled “American Energy Jobs: Opportunities for American Manufacturing.” Watch the live webcast [here](#).

2 PM | House Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity: Energy Sector Veterans Jobs

2 PM | House Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials: Review of Pipeline safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act

3 PM | Senate Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies: Fiscal 2015 Appropriations – Agriculture

Legislation to be considered this week, Tuesday -Thursday:

- Conference Report to [H.R. 3080](#) - Water Resources Reform and Development Act - the bill would authorize 34 projects worth about \$12 billion but requires the deauthorization of at least \$18 billion in previously authorized projects, establishes a new process for selecting future projects for authorization, increases expenditures from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, streamlines the environmental

impact review and permitting process, and permits greater participation by non-federal interests in water projects development and operation. Like the House bill, the agreement establishes a new, multilayer process for ensuring that Congress each year receives a list of recommended water resource projects — from which it would then decide which ones to authorize. The agreement allows non-federal entities to conduct a wide variety of water resources development projects — as long as the corps approves the plans, the project is specifically authorized by Congress and an environmental impact statement has been filed. Under the new process, the Army Corps of Engineers (the corps) would annually submit its own recommendations, as well as state and local and other recommendations, to Congress to be approved or rejected. The bill establishes a P3 pilot program for at least 15 water resources development projects.

- [H.R. 3530](#) - Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2013. This bill takes a number of actions to combat sex trafficking, particularly the sex trafficking of minors. It creates a new victim-centered grant program to provide assistance to states and local law enforcement to bolster the investigation and prosecution of sex trafficking and to help the victims of such crimes, and it strengthens the ability of law enforcement to investigate and prosecute sex trafficking
- [H.R. 3610](#) - Stop Exploitation Through Trafficking Act. This bill encourages states to enact "safe harbor" laws that better protect minors who are victims of sex trafficking by giving states that enact such laws priority for federal grants under the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program.
- [H.R. 4225](#) - Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation (SAVE) Act. This bill makes it a crime to advertise sex either with minors or with individuals who are being prostituted through force, fraud or coercion. This offense would apply to both online and traditional print advertisements.
- [H.R. 4058](#) - Preventing Sex Trafficking and Improving Opportunities for Youth in Foster Care Act, as amended. This bill requires states to take steps to prevent, identify and address sex trafficking of youth in foster care, including by developing policies for assisting victims of sex trafficking. It also modifies foster care policies to improve the foster care experiences of children who may be at risk of falling victim to sex trafficking — including by giving foster parents more authority to make day-to-day decisions regarding their foster child's participation in age-appropriate activities, encouraging states to more quickly move kids out of foster care and into permanent families and giving older children a greater say in the development of their own case plans.
- [H.R. 4031](#) - The Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability Act of 2014.
- [H.R. 4573](#) - International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking. This bill seeks to diminish child sex tourism both overseas and in the United States by creating a center within the Homeland Security Department to notify foreign governments of U.S. child-sex offenders who are traveling to their countries so that they can be monitored, and by encouraging foreign nations to establish similar notification systems when known child-sex offenders are planning to travel to the United States.
- [S. 162](#) – would address mental health issues in the criminal justice system, which the Senate Judiciary Committee approved last June. The bill would reauthorize and expand a 2004 law (PL 108-414) that set up a grant program to support mental-health courts and other collaborative programs between the criminal-justice and mental-health systems.
- [S. 2260](#) - would extend nearly 55 tax breaks that expired at the end of 2013.

Wednesday, May 21st

10 AM | House Appropriations, Full Committee Markup: Fiscal 2015 Budget – Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development

10 AM | House Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management: Federal Protective Services

10 AM | House Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power: Promoting New Manufacturing Act

2 PM | Senate Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies: Fiscal 2015 Appropriations – Agriculture

2:30 PM | Senate Indian Affairs – Full Committee Oversight Hearing: Bureau of Indian Education - “Indian Education Series: Ensuring the Bureau of Indian Education has the Tools Necessary to Improve.” Watch the live webcast [here](#).

Thursday, May 22nd

9 AM | House Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations: Public Housing Management. *Evaluating Public Housing in the U.S.: Reigning in Waste, Fraud, Abuse and Mismanagement at Public Housing Authorities.*

9:45 AM | House financial Services, Full Committee Markup: Financial Services Bills

10 AM | Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Full Committee Hearing: Veterans and Higher Education